



U.S. Forest Service
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
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News Release

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Cow Canyon Fire Update October 04, 2020

Location of Origin: Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, Alpine Ranger District

Start Date: August 18, 2020

Size: Approx. 6,700 Acres

Cause: Lightning

Percent Contained: 18

Personnel: 13

Resources Assigned: 1

Springerville, AZ – October 04, 2020 – The Cow Canyon Fire is burning in a remote location within the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests' Blue Range Primitive Area near the Arizona and New Mexico state border.

Operations: Prior burnout operations around the Bear Mountain Lookout were tested yesterday as the main fire reached the mountain. Thanks to successful firefighting tactics that were deployed previously, no structures were impacted as a result of the fires progression. Recent fire activity is most prevalent on the southeastern flank involving light to moderate ground fuels with some isolated torching. Fire officials will continue to monitor the fire's progression and will utilize point protection when needed.

Values at risk: Firefighting efforts are focused on providing protection for structures, cultural resources and historical sites, and thus far, no identified values at risk have been impacted by the fire.

Closures: The following trails are closed for public health and safety: Cow Flat Trail (#55) beginning at the trail junction of Bonanza Bill Trail (#23), following the Cow Flat Trail (#55) to the southwest until it meets the junction of WS Lake Trail (#54). Lanphier Trail (#52) at the trailhead and the junction of National Forest Service Road (NFSR) 281, following the trail to the southeast until it meets Cow Flat Trail (#55). South Canyon Trail (#53) at the trailhead and the junction of NFSR 281, following the trail to the southeast until it meets Cow Flat Trail (#55). The closure order and map can be found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/asnf/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprd3793918>.

Weather: Today the fire area will experience warmer temperatures with highs near 85 degrees and light winds. The drying trend is expected to continue with no precipitation in the near-term forecast.

Safety: The public should expect increased smoke visible east of Hwy. 191 on the Alpine, Clifton and Springerville Ranger Districts, west of Saddle Mountain, and near the town of Glenwood, New Mexico. Air quality can be found on Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's webpage at <https://azdeq.gov/>.

Daily updates, maps and more can be found on the Cow Canyon fires' official incident page at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7158/>. Fire information can also be found on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/apachesitgreavesnfs/> and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/ASNFs> and on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/news/asnf/news-events>.

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